

An open book is a window to the world.

Ellwood City Public Library  
415 Lawrence Avenue  
Ellwood City, PA 16117  
(724)758-6458

December 2025



## *The Reader's Review*

### IT WAS A VICTORIAN TEA PARTY!!

On Saturday, November 8th at the Calvin Presbyterian Church in Ellwood City, a crowd of local ladies met and enjoyed an afternoon of sweet treats, tea sandwiches, and piping hot tea. There were raffle baskets, door prizes, and prizes for the best hats. The tables looked lovely, the atmosphere was festive, and there were smiles all around.

This annual fundraiser is sponsored by the "Friends of the Library" committee and it seems to be even more fun every year. Special guests this year were our own Library staff with the Library closing early so that they could attend.



#### Hours of Operation

Monday	10:00 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Tuesday	10:00 A.M.	7:00 P.M.
Wednesday	10:00 A.M.	7:00 P.M.
Thursday	10:00 A.M.	7:00 P.M.
Friday	10:00 A.M.	4:00 P.M.
Saturday	9:00 A.M.	4:00P.M.

#### Table of Contents

Victorian Tea.....	2
Dog Man Party.....	3
Book Group Update.....	4
Children's Activities.....	5
Holiday Events.....	6
Movie Night.....	6
Newsletter Sign-up.....	6





Oh, all those hats and smiles!







# Children's Book Week

Children's Book Week, established in 1919, is a celebration of books and the connection they bring and is the longest-running national literacy initiative in our country. This year it was celebrated during the week of November 3rd through the 9th.

We celebrated at our Library with a "Dog Man Family Party" on Thursday, November 6th. According to Mrs. B, 68 people of all ages attended, and everyone at the party, "powered up with reading" for an epic event with all sorts of games, crafts, and FUN! The party started with everyone participating in a trivia game. Then the kids moved through ten different stations that had been set up with lots of different activities available to enjoy. Everyone was given free tickets for a chance to win five different Dav Piley Dog Man books and a kindle. What a great evening!

## Dog Man Family Party!

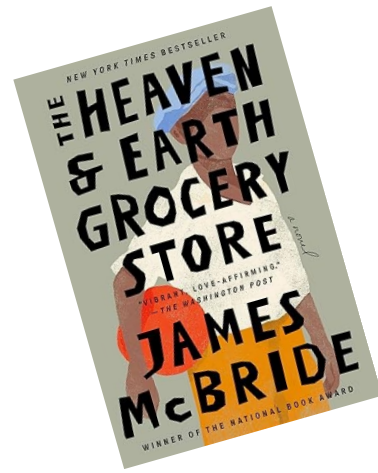
Thursday, Nov. 6th,  
6pm



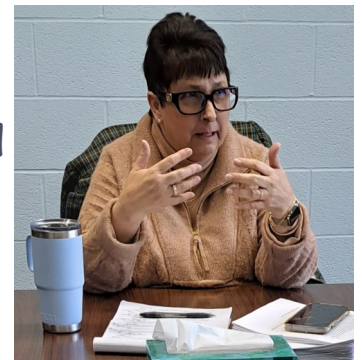


# Contemporary Book Group Happenings!

In September, the book selection for our Contemporary Book Group was "The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store" by James McBride. This novel is set in the diverse 1930s Chicken Hill neighborhood of Pottstown, Pennsylvania. The plot involves the community banding together to protect a deaf black boy from being institutionalized in the Pennhurst State School and Hospital, originally known as the Eastern Pennsylvania State Institution for the Feeble-Minded and Epileptic. Pennhurst was a state run institution for mentally and physically disabled individuals. After 79 years of controversy, mainly because of widespread patient abuse, Pennhurst was closed in 1987.



Much of the group discussion about this book centered around the way disabled individuals were treated during the time when institutions like Pennhurst existed compared to how they are treated today.



Sue Lautenbacher,  
Lark Director

Based on that discussion, some members of our group visited Lark Enterprises located on Route 65 in Shenango Township, where people with disabilities are given employment opportunities. There we met with the Director, Susan Lautenbacher, and were given a tour of the facility and observed clients producing safety apparel for PennDOT among other screen printing and embroidering projects. Clients are treated with dignity and respect and are paid at least minimum wage for their work. Lark clients also provide janitorial services for many local businesses and many are employed in businesses throughout Lawrence County. They can now lead happy, productive lives as contributing members of our communities.



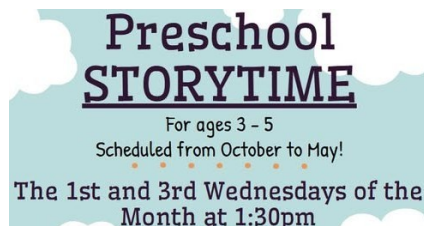
Pennhurst State School,  
Spring City, PA in 1934

# Upcoming Children's Fall Activities!

Most Fall events are scheduled October through May.  
All children's programming will now be held in the Program Room  
unless noted otherwise.

- ~ Starting Sept 10th: STEAM Storytime  
(2nd Wednesdays at 6pm)
- ~ Starting Oct. 1st: Preschool Storytime  
(1st and 3rd Wednesday at 1:30pm)
- ~ Starting Oct. 4th: \*Reading Buddies  
(1st Saturday at 9:30am)\*Children's Area
- ~ Starting Oct. 14th: Baby Laptime  
(2nd and 4th Tuesdays at 10:30am)
- ~ Starting Oct. 14th: Tween & Teen After  
School Program  
(every Tuesday from 3-4pm)
- ~ Starting Oct. 20th: Monday Music &  
Movement  
(1st and 3rd Mondays at 10:30am)

Be sure to check out our Facebook page to  
see all of the events!





# Watch for Upcoming Holiday Events!

## It's Christmas in the Park!

Ellwood City's "Christmas in the Park" in Ewing Park begins on November 29th and runs through December 23rd. When you visit, look for the Library's "Season's Readings" book themed tree. Our Tweens & Teens from the After School Club made their own book cover ornaments to decorate this special tree. So creative!!



## Santa Claus is Coming!

Santa will be visiting the Library on December 18th. He is coming at 6:00P.M. but if you come early, you will be able to listen to Mrs. B read a special story! There will even be hot cocoa to enjoy while you wait! Don't miss seeing the jolly old elf himself!



**DON'T FORGET ABOUT MOVIE NIGHT!!**

**THERE WILL BE NO MOVIE NIGHT IN DECEMBER.**



**TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER!**

**GIVE US YOUR FEEDBACK TOO!**



We need your help so that we can reach more readers. If you know someone who would like to receive this newsletter, please forward it to them or ask them to call the Library at (724)758-6458, or stop in and sign up, sign up on our website [here](#) or email us at: [ellwoodcitylibrarynewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ellwoodcitylibrarynewsletter@gmail.com). Use this email address to give us your feedback too!

Thank you.

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